BATMAN SWINGS INTO NEW TITLE ✦ BYRNE TO DRAW NEW MUTANTS ✦ VIGIL BEGINS ROUGH RAIDERS ✦ BUCK ROGERS RETURNS FROM TSR & DC ✦ VIZ TO DO FIST OF NORTH STAR ✦ COMPLETE DECEMBER CHECKLIST

NUMBER 75
Dec. 7, 1988

COMIC SHOP NEWS

From

A Comics Specialty Outlet

THE WEEKLY COMICS NEWSLETTER!

Punisher Graphic Novel Is Certainly Not a "Big Nothing"

by Cliff Biggers

One of the most successful limited series of all time was the ***Punisher*** limited series by Steven Grant, Mike Zeck, and John Beatty. Their series virtually began the current interest in the character of the Punisher, and paved the way for the two regular ***Punisher*** series now so popular with fans. But since that mini-series

ended, Grant, Zeck, and Beatty have been too busy to return to the ***Punisher.***

They recently found the time to offer ***Punisher*** fans another glimpse of their interpretation of the character, though; the result is ***Return to Big Nothing***, a hardcover Punisher graphic novel slated to reach comics shops on January 26th. Big Nothing was a Marine Corps camp, the last stop for Marines on their way to the 'Nam. This camp is where Frank Castle first met Cleve Gorman. It was Gorman who taught Castle how to survive the Vietnam War. He led Castle's platoon through the jungles of Southeast Asia.

And he betrayed Castle. He thought that Castle had died in the War Zone. He was wrong. Castle was an apt pupil--he had learned to survive. In fact, he learned to do more than survive. He learned to overcome. And Frank Castle became the Punisher.

Return to Big Nothing brings Frank Castle face-to-face with Gorman again. This time, Gorman works for a Cambodian criminal organization, supplying munitions to anyone who can meet the price. This is the operation the Punisher intends to close down. And he has every intention of closing Gorman down as well. ***Return to Big Nothing*** will be published in the same hardcover format used for the extremely successful ***Silver Surfer*** hardcover this past summer. The $16.95 graphic novel will feature a full 64 page story by the Grant-Zeck-Beatty team, as well as a fully painted dust jacket.

First Fiction Premieres From First Comics

by Cliff Biggers

The comics market has become more and more aware of the promise the limited series offers; for many creators, the limited series allows them the opportunity to create a virtual comics novel that they don't have to feel obligated to continue forever. Recognizing the value of the format, First Comics has announced the creation of a new line of books, **First Fiction**, that will be "a lot like quality graphic novels published in four parts," according to editor Larry Doyle.

First Fiction will begin in February of 1989 with the release of ***Twilight Man*** by Steven Grant, Tristan Schane, Eric Vincent, and Bruce Timm. In May, the second First Fiction series, ***Sensei*** by Roger Salick and Val Mayerik, will debut; August will bring ***Squalor*** by Stefan Petrucha and Tom Sutton.

"Each series in the **First Fiction** line will be a self-contained story," Doyle said. "When a series is over, that story is done. There will be no surprise issue five, and no book will suddenly be 'promoted to monthly status.' We're using the **First Fiction** line to offer a new approach not generally taken in comics--not only in the type of material we're presenting, but also in the format we're using to present that material.

"We believe these will sell," Doyle said, "because we believe they are that good. We keep hearing that there's a glut, but still there's precious little to read. There may be a surplus of product, but there's a surfeit of ideas."

The new **First Fiction** format, which First is calling its Premier Format, will be "sort of an amalgam," according to Doyle. "It's what you get when you cross our standard Baxter format book with a Prestige Format book and mix in a copy of ***Marvel Fanfare.*** The result is the best components of each format combined to create a very attractive upscale package at a very affordable price--the Premier Format will carry a cover price of only $2.75." The format will feature full-color cover paintings on heavy cardstock, combined with glossy slick interior pages similar to the format used with ***Marvel Fanfare***. Each 32-page comic in the Premier Format will include 26 pages of story. "This package is designed to look like a book in terms of its production values," Doyle said.

There will be four **First Fiction** projects each year, published on an overlapping schedule--that is, the last issue of the first project will appear the same month the first issue of the next **First Fiction** project debuts. The project is envisioned as ongoing. "We expect to do this indefinitely," Doyle said, "or at least as long as we continue to receive top-notch proposals such as these."

Twilight Man

Twilight Man will be **First Fiction Volume One.** The Twilight Man is Mick Kincaid, a struggling Hollywood actor who has been trained in the art of fighting both good and evil gods. Since those gods were banished a millennium earlier, however, Mick doesn't believe they'll ever return. In fact, he's not even sure they ever existed at all.

Twilight Man reveals how wrong Mick is.

Steven Grant, creator/writer of the series, describes ***Twilight Man*** as "an atheist sword and sorcery fantasy." Larry Doyle adds that it's "an exploration of the great ethical and moral dilemmas of our time, with a lot of cool god stuff thrown in. And this is one of the few sword and sorcery series where an atheist is the hero." Tristan Schane, Eric Vincent, and Bruce Timm will handle the artwork on the series; Vincent received a great deal of critical acclaim for his work on the ***Alien Fire*** series, and Timm has done color work for ***Whisper*** and for the animated ***Mighty Mouse.*** Gerald Brom paints each issue's cover. ***Twilight Man*** will begin in February and run through May.

Sensei

Larry Doyle describes ***Sensei*** as "the ultimate martial arts book." It's a story of Tadashi Natori, a martial arts sensei of samurai descent who feels out of place in the 20th Century. Thanks to his brother's scientific genius, he is able to return to the past of old California and begin his quest to reach feudal Japan. His goal is to learn Bushido, the ancient way of the Samurai.

Tadashi learns, instead, that the fabric of time is a delicate thing.

Roger Salick, the writer of ***Sensei,*** is a fifth degree black belt; he has written a variety of stories for First and has scripted books for Jademan comics. Val Mayerik, a third-degree black belt, is the artist of the series; he has also illustrated the extremely popular ***Young Masters*** series for New Comics. Mayerik will use both line-art and "painterly techniques" to add a unique visual approach to the comic. ***Sensei*** will begin in May and will end in August.

Squalor

Squalor, set to debut in August and run through November, is the most difficult of the three initial offerings to describe. "The concept is so different and the writing is so strong that we were quite stunned by it," Doyle said. "Really, the only problem we had at the onset was finding an artist who was up to the material," which Doyle describes as "an existential satirical sci-fi mind-bending political thriller."

So what artist was chosen? Tom Sutton, the veteran of over two decades of comics work who has most recently been seen on the ***Man-Thing*** serial in Marvel Comics.

"This is one of the most intelligent scripts I've ever read," Sutton said of ***Squalor.*** "Are you sure you want to do it?"

Obviously First was sure--and fans can see the results next summer.

Further titles in the ***First Fiction*** line will be announced in early 1989; ***CSN*** will bring you those details as soon as they're available.

There's Heck to Pay in *Gumby Winter Fun Special*

by Alex Kirkland

Christmas brings lots of treats every year--but this year, Comico is giving comics fans a real comics treat. Christmas 1988 will mark the debut of the Steve Purcell-Art Adams ***Gumby Winter Fun Special***, featuring a story that introduces the Green Guy and his sidekick to Santa and sends him on a rescue mission straight to Heck.

"I'm very happy with the way this has turned out," Purcell commented. "It was a pleasure being able to work with Arthur, who's not only one of the best in the field, but better yet, a personal friend as well!"

Purcell will be busy with Comico these next few months; not only did he write the ***Gumby Winter Fun Special,*** but he is also doing the January special publication ***Sam and Max, Freelance Police.***

Gumby's Winter Fun Special will also offer a couple of special bonuses; first off is a pair of black-and-white pin-up drawings of Gumby and Pokey enmeshed in a confrontation with some prehistoric dinosaurs. The back cover of the special will feature Art Adams-drawn cutout figures of Gumby and Pokey plus assorted cave people and dinosaurs, giving readers a chance to stage their own offbeat action adventures.

"I feel even better about my work on this new ***Special*** than I did about the first," said Adams, who is also very well known for his work on Marvel Comics' ***Longshot*** mini-series.

Gumby's Winter Fun Special is following a very tough act; last year's ***Gumby's Summer Fun Special*** won the Eisner Award for the best single issue of the year. Bob Schreck of Comico is confident that this book will live up to the rep, though. "We are certain," he said, "that if you enjoyed the first ***Gumby Special,*** you're going to be just as pleased with this follow-up!"

NEWSBRIEFS

BATMAN SWINGS INTO THIRD TITLE

1989 will bring the addition of a third monthly Batman comic, ***Adventures of Batman***. The British news publication ***Speakeasy*** reports that the new title, announced at the Frankfurt Book Fair, will feature Batman stories more in the vein of ***The Killing Joke, The Cult,*** and the upcoming ***Arkham Asylum*** (slated for April release, by the way). The new series will be written by **Denny O'Neil**; DC has not announced an art team yet, but ***CSN*** will keep you updated.

VIZ ENVISIONS NEW FORMATS

Viz Publications is quite familiar to any manga translation fans, but the company feels that there are a number of fans who aren't familiar with them because they don't know about the wide variety of manga material available. To help educate those fans and show them that Japanese manga offer more than robots and samurai, Viz is looking at offering an anthology title in 1989 that will feature 6 to 8 different strips per book, with 10-12 pages devoted to each strip.

These new anthology titles will be reminiscent of popular manga anthologies released in Japan; the books will feature a variety of material by different creators.

Viz is also considering offering more books in a format that Capital City Distributors describes as "the super-long graphic novel format," offering hundreds of pages per volume. This format is very popular in Japan, but hasn't been used very often in America (although NOW's ***Speed Racer Classics*** is a good example of the Japanese manga super-long format).

No titles have been set for this format yet, but Viz does plan to make some announcements about new books to be published this way in 1989.

GODZILLA ADDS FIRE TO DARK HORSE SCHEDULE IN 1989

Dark Horse Comics has had great success with everyone's favorite lizard, ***Godzilla;*** now that the 6-issue limited series presenting the ***Godzilla*** manga translation is coming to an end.

Dark Horse has announced two new publications that should keep big lizard fans everywhere happy. Dark Horse has announced a ***Godzilla '89 Portfolio***, featuring new plates by **Nelson, Giffen, Bissette, Fong, Vess,** and others; the new portfolio will be done in the same format as this fall's ***Godzilla Portfolio.***

Also scheduled is a new trade paperback reprinting the entire ***Godzilla*** mini-series in one volume; look for it in the summer. If you prefer your lizards more real-to-life, however, then you might want to know about another 1989 Dark Horse project entitled ***Dinosaurs: The Ruling Reptiles.***

The new book will be educational in scope, and will tell about dinosaurs, fossils, and reptilian history. **Bob Walters, Tim Sullivan, and Mike Manly** will be producing the new color one-shot.

Finally, Dark Horse has another dinosaur project slated for this spring or summer; entitled ***Empire of the Dinosaurs***, it presents an alternate dimension in which dinosaurs have been evolving much the same way that mammals have evolved on this world. A dimensional warp brings these evolved dinosaurs into our world in 1919, where their presence alters significant events in history.

BRER RABBIT HOPS ONTO COMICO SCHEDULE

The classic Joel Chandler Harris character ***Brer Rabbit*** will appear in illustrated form from **Comico** in mid-February 1989, when **Arthur Suydam's** paintings accompany the original story in a 32-page 9" x 12" square-bound book. The book is being published in conjunction with Kipling Press. Comico adds that ***Brer Rabbit*** "includes some of Suydam's finest work ever, so Suydam completists as well as all fine art lovers won't want to miss it!

BYRNE ATTRACTED TO MAGNETO STORYLINE

New Mutants #75, which will feature Magneto's return to villainy, will have a guest artist in place of Bret Blevins. **John Byrne** will be illustrating the return of one of Marvel's best-known arch-villains to his evil roots. Fans of John Byrne's art won't want to miss this special issue, on sale in mid-January 1989.

KITCHEN SINK PLANS ALMOST-COMPLETE KURTZMAN REPRINT SERIES

Dennis Kitchen of **Kitchen Sink** has announced plans to release virtually every bit of comics work that **Harvey Kurtzman** has done; this is possible because Kurtzman kept quality photostats of his work before turning it over to publishers.

The only Kurtzman work that Kitchen Sink will not be releasing, according to Dennis Kitchen, will be the EC work already reprinted by Russ Cochran. Kitchen Sink has already presented such Kurtzman material as ***The Jungle Book*** and ***Betsy's Buddies.***

GRAPHIC NOVEL EXPLORES PETER PARKER'S, MARY JANE'S PAST

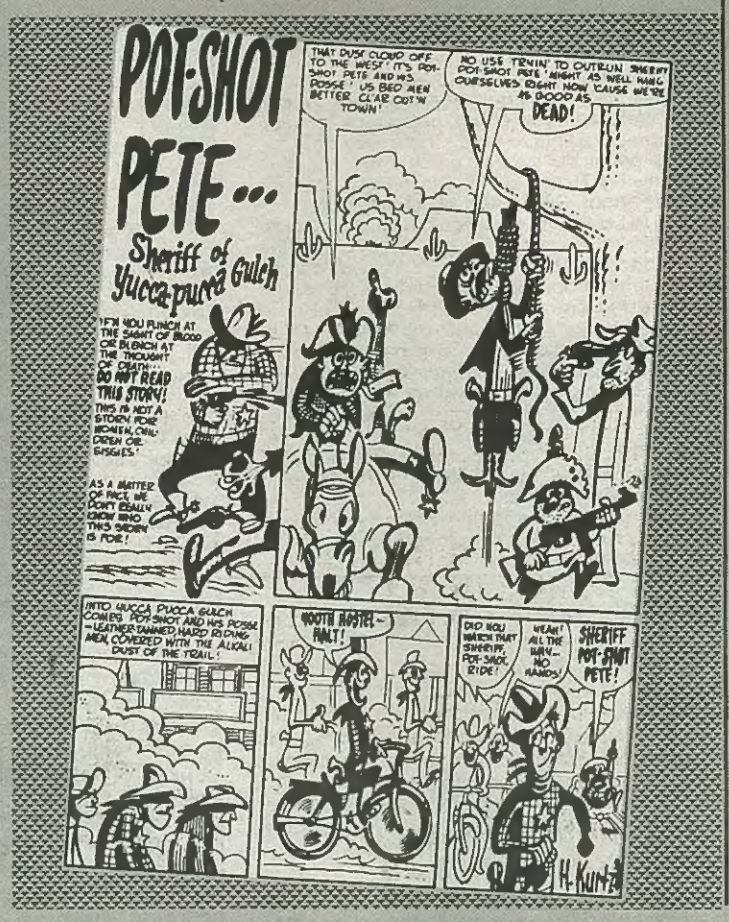
Patterns, a new graphic novel by **Gerry Conway and Alex Saviuk** scheduled for March 1989 release, will be an all-new Spider-man graphic novel focusing on Peter Parker's and Mary Jane's past. The story will explore their lives from the time the two characters first met, and will reveal--among other things--exactly how Mary Jane first discovered that Peter Parker was Spider-man. According to Steve Saffel of Marvel, "This graphic novel will also restore Dr. Octopus to his status as a major villain in the Marvel Universe." Both Conway and Saviuk are very familiar with Marvel's web-spinner, having presented his adventures in two of the Spider-man titles recently.

BLUE BULLETEER BARRELS INTO ACTION

The Golden Age ***Blue Bulleteers*** may have been almost forgotten, but AC Comics plans to change that when they bring out a new ***Blue Bulleteer*** in December. In the new series by **Bill Black and Bill Lux**, Laura Wright decides to put on a costume and become a masked crimefighter under the name the Blue Bulleteer. Unknown to her, someone else on the other side of time has decided to do the very same thing.

In ***Blue Bulleteer #1***, readers will discover if even two Blue Bulleteers are enough to face Lady Luger. The comic will also offer a Golden Age Blue Bulleteers story by **Bill Ward.**

Blue Bulleteer #1 will be published in black and white for $2.25.


POT-SHOT PETE...
Sheriff of Yucca-pucca Gulch
IF'N YOU FLINCH AT THE SIGHT OF BLOOD OR BLENCH AT THE THOUGHT OF DEATH... DO NOT READ THIS STORY! THIS IS NOT A STORY FOR WOMEN, CHILDREN OR SISSIES!
AS A MATTER OF FACT, WE DON'T REALLY KNOW WHO THIS STORY IS FOR!
THAT DUSK CLOUD OFF TO THE WEST IT'S POT-SHOT PETE AND HIS POSSE! US BEO MEN BETTER CLEAR OUT'N TOWN!
NO USE TRYIN' TO OUTRUN SHERIFF POT-SHOT PETE MIGHT AS WELL HANG OURSELVES RIGHT NOW 'CAUSE WE'RE AS GOOD AS DEAD!
INTO YUCCA PUCCA GULCH COMES POT-SHOT AND HIS POSSE --LEATHER-TANNED, HARD RIDING MEN, COVERED WITH THE ALKALI DUST OF THE TRAIL!
OOOTH MASTER-- FAULT!
DID YOU WATCH THAT SHERIFF POT-SHOT RIDE!
WEAH! ALL THE WAY-- NO HANDS!
SHERIFF POT-SHOT PETE!
H. Kurtzman

THE POWER OF NEGATIVE THINKING

Larry Trainor, the original **Negative Man** from the ***Doom Patrol*** line-up, is about to come to an end; but this doesn't mean that negative beings are being eliminated from the Doom Patrol team. Instead, it's time for **Morrison and Case** to welcome Rebis, the Doom Patrol's new Negative-being. If you haven't been keeping up with the Doom Patrol lately, perhaps the new direction this new team is bringing to the book is a good time to check things out! Look for Rebis to appear on February 2nd, in ***Doom Patrol #20.***

DINOSAURS GET NEW LIFE

Dinosaurs for Hire has proven more popular than even the folks at **Eternity Comics** were prepared for; the first issue has totally sold out, and Eternity will have to do a second printing in January to meet the demand.

Meanwhile, popular artist **Tim Vigil** is preparing the cover for ***Dinosaurs for Hire #6***, also scheduled to reach comics shops in January. "Tim gives the Boys a definite menacing look," series creator Tom Mason said. "I can't see how anybody would be disappointed." This issue also marks the debut of **Chuck Wojkiewicz** as penciller of the series.

EXCALIBUR GOES OUT ON A LIM

Ron Lim, the popular artist of ***Silver Surfer*** and ***Psi Force***, will fill in for Alan Davis as guest artist on ***Excalibur #8***. ***Chris Claremont*** will write the issue, which brings the popular mutant team to New York. This will mark the first return of some of the characters to the United States since they left the X-Men to become members of the new team. Look for ***Excalibur #8*** on January 5th.

VOX POPULAR AT APPLE

Apple Comics will debut a new science fiction adventure series in 1989, and they'll kick it off in a big way with a **John Byrne** cover. The new series is entitled ***Vox***, and it's set sometime in the future when there are three races in the known universe--humans, humanoids, and a race evolved from dolphins. The story will focus on the struggle for "the ultimate invention"--which can be used for war or for peace--which is owned by humans. Vox is created and written by ***Angela Harris*** and drawn by ***Aaron McClellan.*** Look for the first issue of this 7-issue limited series to debut in February or March 1989.

COMIC SHOP NEWS
1353 Gray Rock Drive
Marietta, GA. 30066
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Editors
Cliff Biggers & Ward Batty
Publisher
ParaGraphics
Printing by
STAR
Acworth, GA.
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NEWSBRIEFS

VIGIL BEGINS ROUGH RAIDERS

"***Rough Raiders #2*** is potentially the most collectible and valuable comic book that Blue Comet Press has ever made," said **Craig Stormon**, publisher of Blue Comet Press. Stormon has made an effort to get some of the most popular independent comics creators available to contribute to Rough Raiders--and it's a pretty good list indeed! **Tim Vigil, Ben Dunn, and Steven Hughes** will all be doing work for ***Rough Raiders #2*** Each artist has done a ten page story for this issue, which should be released in January of 1989. Afterwards, Blue Comet hopes to have Rough Raiders out on a bi-monthly schedule; Vigil, Dunn, Hughes, **Dave Garcia, and Dan Adkins** are all scheduled for upcoming issues.

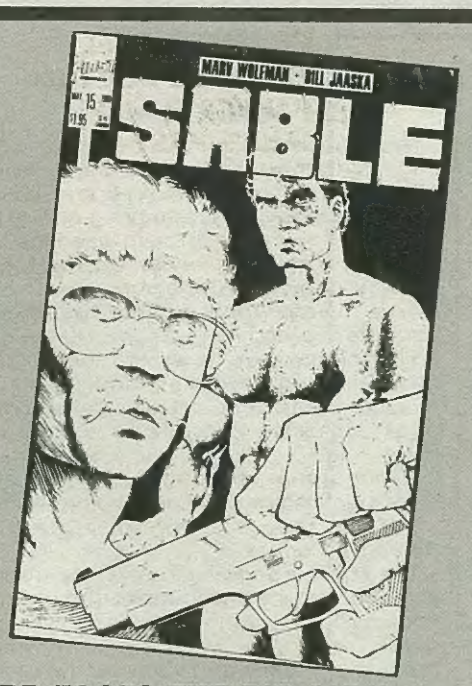
Stormon is quite confident about the 1989 Blue Comet line-up; in addition to Rough Raiders, there's a new series entitled ***Bladesmen*** on the schedule for March of 1989. Bladesmen will be illustrated by Steven Hughes, best known for his work on ***Stark:Future*** for Arcel.

ROBIN'S DEATH FLIES OFF THE STANDS...

Batman #428, the now-famous issue that features the death of Jason Todd, has become quite a status symbol among not only comics collectors but also non-collectors who want to find out just what happened to the boy wonder.

The sudden surge in interest in the comic has proven to be so intense that some stores are already reported regular sales on the book for as much as $35, with several stores asking even more.

This has prompted a few people to wonder why there isn't such a big push for Batman #427; after all, Robin actually dies in that issue, only no one knew it until #428 came out...



BB FACES THE BIG GUNS

Sable #15, on sale in late January 1989, will begin a three-part story that will have lasting effects on Jon Sable and Myke. In the first segment, Jon faces problems from all directions: first, he goes up against a gang of criminals even though he knows it will threaten his life and the lives of those close to him. As if that isn't enough for one issue, Myke makes a discovery that will change her life and her relationship with Jon. Finally, even Jon's sedate life as children's author BB Flemm causes him problems as Flemm's latest children's book becomes the center of controversy--and Flemm ends up on Ted Koppel's Nightline. **Marv Wolfman and Bill Jaaska** will team up to tell us about Sable's woes in ***Sable #15, 16, & 17.***

VIZ CLINCHES DEAL FOR FIST OF NORTH STAR

The famous Japanese manga ***Fist of the North Star*** will be available in American translation in the spring of 1989 courtesy of **Viz Publications**. While Viz knows it will be bringing this post-apocalypse quasi-superhero comics series to American readers, they don't know what format the book will appear in; Viz is considering both the 48-56 page squarebound format and the standard comics format. According to Capital City Distributors, Viz is working to coordinate the release of the book with a ***Fist***-blitz in America, which will include a ***Fist of the North Star*** computer game and (possibly) an American release of the animated film.

GOING, GOING, GONE...

Those of you who were pooling your spare change from you comics purchases each week to buy a certain big-name comics company can break open the piggy bank and buy a few extra books, because **Marvel** has been sold. The new owners are the **McAndrews** group, an investment company that paid a reported $83 million for the number one comics publisher. No one anticipates any real changes in day-to-day operations at Marvel because of the sale.

BUCK ROGERS ROCKETS INTO COMICS IN '89

The archetypal sf hero ***Buck Rogers*** will return to new comics adventures in 1989, when ***Christy Marx*** will present his exploits in a two-issue prestige format series that will lead in to a monthly title. The new series will be marketed in conjunction with TSR's ***Buck Rogers*** game. No artists have been named for ***Buck Rogers*** yet; keep checking ***CSN*** for further information.

BEACHUM BEHIND COVER FOR EX-MUTANTS #8

Ex-Mutants fans are going to wonder who was behind the eye-catching cover for the eighth issue of that comic once it reaches shops in January. The painting's artist? **Mark Beachum**, well-known for his work on ***Samuree*** and ***Flare***. ***Ex-Mutants #8*** pits the Ex-Mutants against the undead army of the sorcerer Dhalgren. **Paul O'Connor and Michael D. Shaw** handle the story and art for the book.

COWAN DOES IRON MAN

Denys Cowan, acclaimed artist of ***Question, Black Panther***, and the upcoming Batman 142-page saga in ***Detective Comics***, has taken the time to guest-pencil ***Iron Man #242***, which features Iron Man doing battle against the Mandarin. **Dave Michelinie** writes the story, which is inked by **Bob Layton**. Look for it on February 2nd.

GET READY FOR SPACE VIXENS

Good girl art has been a part of comics for quite a while--and there's no one better at it than **Dave Stevens**. Fans of his beautiful damsels won't want to miss ***3-D Zone #16***, on sale in December; that issue will feature an entire 32 page book of "Space Vixens" stories by **Dave Stevens** and **Bruce Jones**, including "Aurora," "Princess Pam," "Point of View," and "Fair Play." The cover is a new drawing by Stevens. And, as the name might have told you, the book will be published in 3-D; glasses will be included.

BATMAN GOES TO BLACK

One of this year's t-shirt smashes has been the ***Batman t-shirt*** from Graphitti designs, featuring the Bat-symbol on a grey t-shirt. Graphitti will be offering that same bat-symbol on a black shirt in early 1989 for those Batman fans who want to fade into the night's darkness. The price of the new shirt will be $11.95, and it will be available in all sizes.

PIGEONS FROM HELL ADDS HARDCOVER EDITION

Eclipse has announced the addition of a signed/numbered hardcover of ***Pigeons From Hell***, **Scott Hampton**'s adaptation of the classic Robert E. Howard story. The 64-page 8" x 11" hardcover will be priced at $29.95, and should be available in late January. As w all items of this sort, ***CSN*** readers should let their local comics shop know if they're interested, since supplies will be limited.

DELTA TENN APPEARS ON LATE SHOW

Shannon Tweed, the actress who has optioned **Mark Marderosian**'s ***Delta Tenn*** for an upcoming television series, appeared on the Fox Network's Late Show in early October to discuss the comic and the plans for the series. Tweed had a copy of the comic with her, and a photo recreation of the cover to the first issue (using a photo of Tweed in the Delta Tenn pose) was shown. Plans seem to be progressing very well to bring the project to fruition.

CONAN PORTFOLIO SERIES CONTINUES

The second of a series of Conan Portfolios by **Bart Sears** is set for January 1989 release; ***Conan of Cimmeria*** features seven 11 x 14 black-and-white plates in a plastic collectors folder. Included in the portfolio will be a plate illustrating what is perhaps the most popular of all Conan stories, "The Frost Giant's Daughter." All in all, SQP, the portfolio's publisher, has plans for 12 Conan portfo-

IT TAKES LONGER TO GET TO PLAIN AWFUL THAN THEY THOUGHT...

Gladstone Comics has announced that the ***Don Rosa*** story "Return to Plain Awful" that was scheduled for ***Donald Duck Adventures #11*** didn't quite make it; it took Rosa a bit longer than expected to finish the story, so it is not slated to appear in ***Donald Duck Adventures #12***, on sale January 19th.

Gladstone has come up with a memorable way of making up for the delay, however; ***DDA #12*** will also include a free centerfold poster, printed on slick cover stock, that will feature a reproduction of a new **Carl Barks** oil painting, "Return to Plain Awful." The comic will also include the Barks ten-pager "Omelet" and a short by **William Van Horn**. That's quite a bonus for having to wait an extra couple of months!

Ironically, it turns out that the timing on "Return to Plain Awful" is significant; the comic will appear exactly forty years after the first publication of "Lost in the Andes," the story that inspired the sequel.

SLAVE LABOR GRAPHICS STEELS ITSELF FOR METAL MEN OF MARS

Metal Men of Mars and Other Fantastic Tales #1, a new title from Slave Labor Graphics set to debut in early 1989, is a part-reprint, part-original series. Odds are, though, that most fans have never seen the material being reprinted, because ***Metal Men of Mars...*** will be reprinting material from books that received little or no distribution during the black and white crunch of 1986 and 1987. The lead story features Captain Daring and the Metal Men of Mars, a reprint. The original material will include a preview of the upcoming Slave Labor series ***Futurerama*** by **Ken Holewczynski.**

The entire package will be black-and-white with color covers, and will carry a $1.95 pricetag.

TOR POSTER RIPS ITS WAY INTO COMICS SHOPS

Remember ***Tor***, the prehistoric hero done by ***Joe Kubert*** in the 1950's and again in the 1970's? You may not have known that in the 1950's, Joe Kubert did a 3-D poster of Tor as a test proof of the 3-D process. We know that the process was successful--but the poster had been overlooked in the years following. Naturally, one person who didn't forget it was **Ray Zone**, publisher of 3-D Zone. Zone located the poster and will be reprinting it in December in 3-D. The 14" by 20" poster is described by Zone as "a missing link in the history of 3-D comics," but fans will be able to own a copy for only $2.95.

CSN NEWS & NOTES

His Name Is Bond...

by Cliff Biggers

James Bond, the archetypal secret agent hero created by Ian Fleming some 35 years ago, has been a film star for over a quarter-century now--but the comics field has remained unconquered by this agent of Her Majesty's Secret Service. While the James Bond comic strip was quite successful, his comic book appearances have been limited to occasional adaptations of James Bond films published by DC and Marvel. Eclipse Comics is determined that 1989 will be the year that James Bond conquers comic books, however, and they've brought in some heavy talent to make it happen.

In late January 1989, Eclipse will release the first issue of Mike Grell's all-new ***James Bond 007*** prestige-format comic. The three-issue story will offer an original 144-page Bond story, fully written and illustrated by Grell. The format isn't new to Grell, since it's the same format he used for his smash-hit ***Green Arrow: Last of the Longbow Hunters*** series for DC almost two years ago.

The story will take Bond behind the Iron Curtain once again; this time, his mission is to rescue the daughter of a Czechoslovakian scientist left behind during the Soviet invasion of 1968. Bond didn't get her out then--but he's determined he'll succeed this time. Unfortunately, the KGB has her under heavy guard--and they're not too interested in seeing Bond succeed. Grell promises to pack the series with the serious action that Bond fans expect to see, from knife fights to helicopter duels. ***James Bond 007*** will offer the sort of serious espionage-oriented realism that can be found in the best of the Bond films, but will also offer all the taut, suspenseful elements of the novels that seem to get lost in the translation to the big screen.

The first issue of ***James Bond 007*** should reach comics shops in the latter part of January; each issue will be priced at $3.95. There are no plans at the present time to add a ***James Bond 007*** title to the Eclipse line-up after the series is complete--but Beau Smith of Eclipse said the option is available!

Barr finds his way Into the *MAZE Agency*

A number of comics writers have also been mystery fans; one writer who definitely falls into that category is Mike Barr. Comico will give Barr a chance to bring one of his fondest comics dreams to life when the first issue of his new mystery series, ***The MAZE Agency***, debuts this December.

"I've always wanted to put together a book like this, and I can hardly believe it's finally going to see its way to the comics racks," Barr said. "And considering the incredible line-up of talent joining me on the book, I think we've really got something here!"

Writing stories with a strong mystery element is nothing new to Barr, who has written several suspenseful Batman stories for ***Detective Comics.***

The MAZE Agency is a mystery comic about characters who make their livings from mysteries. Jennifer Mays is a private detective; Gabriel Webb is a crime writer. The two of them work to solve some of the toughest cases ever--and the book is written so that the reader can solve the case right along with them. Each story is a play-fair mystery that gives the reader all the clues necessary to solve the crime.

Bob Schreck of Comico is eager to see the book's release. "Mystery is a news genre that Comico is venturing into, but we're confident of its success with Mike at the helm, the very fine art team working with him, and our quality-minded audience taken into consideration," Schreck said.

That fine art team will certainly enhance ***The MAZE Agency***; the penciller is Adam Hughes, a very talented newcomer who has previously worked for Adventure Publications, and the inker is Rick Magyar, praised for his work on Denys Cowan's pencils on ***The Question.*** The colors are being done by Julia Lacquement, color artist on ***Green Arrow: Last of the Longbow Hunters.***

The MAZE Agency should reach comics shops on December 15th; each monthly full-color issue will be priced at $1.75.

Justice League Trade Paperback Slated

The super-hot ***Justice League International*** began its new life as ***Justice League***; the early issues of that title established the popularity of **Kevin Maguire** as a comics artist and of **Giffen and DeMatteis** as a humorous-adventure writing team. Unfortunately for fans who missed out on the early issues of that comic, back-issue prices have climbed fairly quickly, and some of the books are very hard to find. Don't think that DC's abandoned you, bunky! 1989 will bring a ***Justice League*** trade paperback that will reprint the first six issues of the series so that fans without big bucks can still afford to read those early exploits. No information on price or release date is available yet, but ***CSN*** will let you know as soon as it's announced.

Super-Heroes hit the Streets as policemen in new series

Police procedural novels by authors like Ed McBain and Dell Shannon have been very popular in the mystery field; now Eternity comics plans to offer a new title that its writer/creator describes as a cross between super-hero comics and police procedural novels. The new series, ***Street Heroes 2005***, is set in a future wherein it's against the law to be a super-hero.

Street Heroes 2005 is the adventures of Fancy Dans (street slang for super-heroes) and unempowered people ("straights") working together on the police force of a midwestern metropolis.

"Twenty years from now Dans are subliminally frightening to the public and not entirely trusted by the uninitiated, much like policemen are today," said series creator Steven Philip Jones. Unlike most comics that feature superheroes as vigilantes, in ***Street Heroes 2005***, the superheroes are a part of law enforcement. "What I've done with Street Heroes is to incorporate the fantasy elements of ***Superman*** and ***Spider-man*** with those of the police procedural novels. Picture superheroes in the world of Ed McBain's 87th Precinct series and you've got a pretty good idea what Street Heroes 2005 is about."

The book focuses on Sgt. "Blood" Davis. Davis is teamed up with Wyatt Wolverstone, a superhero who's used to solving problems his own way; Davis' previous partner was killed by a vigilante superhero used by the underworld as an enforcer.

"Wyatt is looking for his own elephant's graveyard," artist Chris Jones said. "A veteran of actions in Chile, Northern Ireland, Vietnam, and the Middle East, he's also played Merc for NATO, the KGB, and the CIA. Due to a series of mental and physical problems, he's been traded to the local police to wait out his ten years until retirement."The book isn't a high-tech future-sf comic; instead, the world of 2005 is very film-noir in appearance. "A lot of it is going to show through in the fashions--double-breasted suits and such," Jones added. "One of the things that hooked me about the tories was that except for the occasional superhero they occur in a world very close to reality. If someone gets into a fight, they get hurt, they go to the hospital, they even die. They don't brush themselves off and declare it's Miller time." "It's a terrific concept, and Steve and Chris are having a lot of fun with it," Tom Mason of Eternity said. "Twenty years from now, the future is not all that different. There are no super-powered weapons, the world as we know it hasn't been destroyed by nuclear war, people still have the same sort of jobs. Only the cities are dirties and corruption is more widespread. And there are few superheroes running around."

The first issue of ***Street Heroes 2005*** should reach comics shops in January of 1989.

1 ETERNITY
BEING A SUPER-HERO CAN GET YOU BUSTED
BEING A COP CAN STILL GET YOU KILLED
street heroes 2005
DON'T MOVE, YOU BASTARD!
INFIELD AND OUTFIELD, MOVE IN! NOW!
THE NAME'S FIREPOWER, FRIEND
REMEMBER IT.
THREE

Arcane Comix Offers Truly Arcane Comics

Arcane Comix is certainly a company that hopes to live up to its name; their latest publication, ***Fly In My Eye***, is subtitled "an anthology of unparalleled confusion," and will present 200 pages of some of the most esoteric material available in comics form.

"***Fly in My Eye*** is an anthology of comics, words, and art by group of people in serious need of professional help," Arcane Comix says about the book. "Hatched from the fevered brain of **Steve Niles**, this book has become a sanctuary for psychotic thyroid cases who wear their underwear on the outside of their clothes.

"From John Bolton's Flea-Bitten Faust to Matt Howarth's divorce game to Peter Kuper's post-apocalypse slideshow to Ted McKeever's bit o' Hell to Clive Barker's pointed observations, Fly in My Eye...is so big you'll need help carrying it home!"

The 200-page squarebound book will feature work by a variety of talents in the field, including **Clive Barker, Stephen Bissette, John Bolton, Matt Howarth, Ted McKeever, John Shirley, Dan Steffan, Douglas Winter, and Bill Sienkiewicz,** who contributes the cover. It should be available in comics shops in early January, 1989; be sure to let your local comics shop know that you're going to "bug" him until you get a copy!

Damages Delay Elfquest TPB's

The new Fathertree Press ***Elfquest*** trade paperback volumes have been delayed by art damage that has affected material intended for ***Elfquest Book IV***. This is making it necessary for the art to be retouched, and should make the book a month late. According to WaRP, this may mean that volume 5 will appear before volume 4; the final volume, originally slated to hit comics shops before Christmas, won't be available until early 1989.

New Broad-Based Line Has Catalan Purring

Catalan has for many years been a company that offered products almost exclusively for adult comics readers; most of their European reprints were too strong in content for younger fans. That will change in 1989, though, when Catalan adds a **Comcat** line to its European reprint packages. The new Comcat imprint will feature non-superhero material that can be read by audiences of almost any age; the prices will also be lower than the prices on the current Catalan books. The format will be 8" by 11" graphic novel style. Among the first Comcat offerings will be ***Adventures of Yoko, Vic, and Paul; Blake and Mortimer;*** and ***Code 13.*** **Jean-Jacques Surbeck** will be the editor of the line.

According to Capital City Distributors, "There will be five or six different collections in the Comcat line. Within those collections, there will be numbered series for each property--e.g., ***Yoko #1, Yoko #2,*** etc. will be within the overall sf collection. They plan collections of science fiction, adventure, westerns, sword and sorcery, historical stories, spy-mystery, and young readers."

Which Witch? Wolfman's Witch!

Marv Wolfman is best-known today for his work on the ***New Titans*** and on the multi-hero epics like ***Crisis on Infinite Earths*** and ***Total Eclipse.*** Years ago, before any of those series came about, Wolfman worked with artist ***Ernie Colon***--whose most recent work appears in the upcoming ***Airboy Diary*** series and the ***Ax*** graphic novel--to tell the story of ***Witch.***

Witch is a story of magic, evil, witchcraft, and adventure, never before published in one comic. The Eternity edition will also feature a new Marv Wolfman introduction. The book will carry a mature readers advisory because of mild, partial nudity. ***Jim Balent*** will do a new cover for the comic.

COMPLETE DECEMBER CHECKLIST

The Upcoming Comics listing of scheduled titles and the dates that they should arrive in comics shops across the country. That doesn't mean that the books will always be in your shop on the date listed: some publishers ship from different parts of the country, and the farther away the publisher is from your local comic shop, the longer it will take the books to get to you. Publishers are sometimes forced to reschedule titles, and that might result in some date changes on some releases.

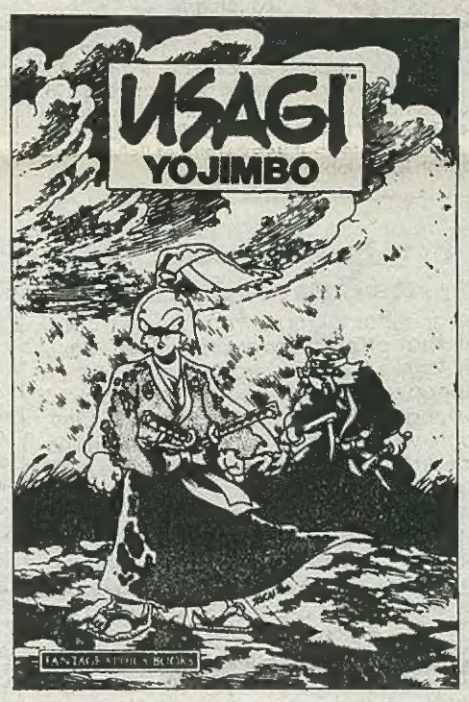
Each entry presents the title and number of the book, followed by the release date; if a title doesn't have a scheduled release date (some publishers merely say that their books will ship in December without giving a date), we don't give you a date. After that is the Publisher of the comic and the price. If a book you're looking for is on the index and doesn't arrive in a week or two after the date, be sure to ask the friendly folks at your comics shop; they may be able to update you on schedule changes that have affected that book.

Hang on to this list! It presents the titles that are supposed to ship the last week of Novemberand all of December .

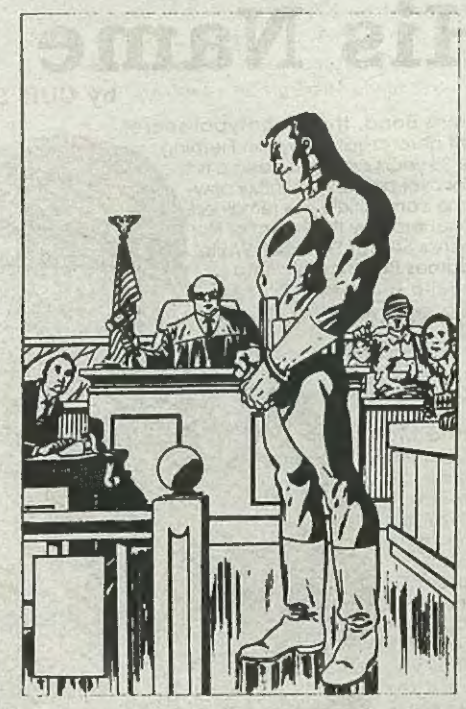
❑ ***Aces 5*** 12/1 Eclipse $2.95
❑ ***Aces 6*** 12/29 Eclipse $2.95
❑ ***Action Comics Weekly 635*** 12/1 DC $1.50
Special crossover issue featuring Superman, Blackhawk, Green Lantern, and Black Canary–a CSN Hot Pick
❑ ***Action Comics Weekly 636*** 12/8 DC $1.50
❑ ***Action Comics Weekly 637*** 12/15 DC $1.50
❑ ***Action Comics Weekly 638*** 12/22 DC $1.50
The Phantom Lady is Back!
❑ ***Advanced Dungeons and Dragons 2*** 12/8 DC $1.25
Based on TSR Gaming system
❑ ***Adventurers Book II 8*** Adventure 41.95
❑ ***Adventures of Superman 450*** 12/1 DC .75
The world finds out just who the Gangbuster is!–A CSN Hot Pick
❑ ***Airboy 46*** 12/15 Eclipse $1.95
Airboy's Diary begins– CSN Hot Pick
❑ ***Akira 5*** 12/15 Marvel $2.95
❑ ***Alf 14*** 12/15 Marvel $1
❑ ***Alien Legion 9*** 12/29 Marvel $1.50
❑ ***Alpha Flight 69*** 12/15 Marvel $1.50
❑ ***Amazing Heroes 154*** Fantagraphics $2.95
Spotlight on The MAZE Agency
❑ ***Amazing Heroes 155*** Fantagraphics $2.95
Klaus Janson interview
❑ ***Amazing Heroes 156*** Fantagraphics $2.95
George Perez interview
❑ ***Amazing Spider-man 314*** 12/15 Marvel $1
Peter and Mary Jane are evicted and move in with Aunt May
❑ ***American Flagg 12*** 12/22 First $1.95
❑ ***Animal Man 7*** 12/1 DC $1.25
❑ ***Appleseed 3*** 12/8 Eclipse $2.50
❑ ***Aramis 1*** Comics Interview $1.95
❑ ***Aramis 2*** Comics Interview $1.95
❑ ***Aramis 3*** Comics Interview $1.95
Sorcerer Aramis Merrow is spotlighted in this weekly miniseries–Southern Knights spinoff
❑ ***Archie 364*** 12/1 Archie .75
❑ ***Archie 365*** 12/29 Archie .75
❑ ***Archie's Double Digest 39*** 12/8 Archie $2.25
❑ ***Archie's Pals 'n' Gals 204*** 12/8 Archie .75
❑ ***Area 88 37*** Viz $1.75
❑ ***Art of John Bolton TPB*** 12/15 Eclipse $15.95
Special look at Bolton's art, with a long focus on Someplace Strange
❑ ***Asgardian Wars TPB*** 12/8 Marvel $14.95
Reprinting the entire storyline by Claremont, Smith, and Adams–A CSN Hot Pick
❑ ***Astro Boy 17*** NOW $1.75
❑ ***Avengers 302*** 12/22 Marvel $1
Quasar's back–and the Super-Nova makes an appearance, too
❑ ***Ax GN*** 12/15 Marvel $5.95
Ernie Colon fantasy GN
❑ ***Bad Company 2*** Quality $1.50
❑ ***Badger 46*** 12/8 First $1.95
❑ ***Batman 430*** 12/22 DC .75
Robin's still dead...
❑ ***Battle◊Armor 2*** Eternity $1.95
❑ ***Battle Ax 1*** Comics Interview $2.50
Heroic adventure anthology
❑ ***Battletech 7*** Blackthorne $2
❑ ***Betty & Me 173*** 12/22 Archie .75
❑ ***Betty & Veronica 18*** 12/8 Archie .75
❑ ***Betty & Veronica Digest 35*** 12/8 Archie .75

❑ ***Big 1*** Dark Horse $2
Adaptation of the Tom Hanks film
❑ ***Black Kiss 6*** Vortex $1.25
For adult readers only
❑ ***Black Orchid 2*** 12/8 DC $3.50
Continuing the fully-painted prestige-format series by Gaiman and McKean–a CSN Hot Pick
❑ ***Bloodbrothers 2*** Eternity $1.95
❑ ***Blue Bulleteer 1*** AC $2.25
❑ ***Boris the Bear 24*** Nicotat $1.95
❑ ***Buz Sawyer 5*** Pioneer $2
❑ ***Captain America 352*** 12/15 Marvel .75
❑ ***Captain Atom 25*** 12/8 DC $1
❑ ***Catwoman 1*** 12/22 DC $1.50
Mindy Newell and J.J. Birch explore the events leading Selina Kyle to become the Catwoman–A CSN Hot Pick
❑ ***Cerebus 117*** Aardvark-Vanaheim $2
❑ ***Cerebus BiWeekly 1*** Aardvark-Vanaheim $1.25
❑ ***Cerebus Biweekly 2*** Aardvark-Vanaheim $1.25
❑ ***Cerebus Biweekly 3*** Aardvark-Vanaheim $1.25
Reprinting the very hard-to-find original issues of Cerebus–a CSN Hot Pick
❑ ***Checkmate 13*** 12/15 DC $1.25
❑ ***Classic X-Men 31*** 12/1 Marvel $1.25
❑ ***Classic X-Men 32*** 12/29 Marvel $1.25
❑ ***Cloak and Dagger 4*** 12/29 Marvel $1.50
❑ ***Comico Christmas Special 1*** 12/8 Comico $2.50
Anthology collecting a variety of Christmas-related stories–art by Rude, Williamson, and more
❑ ***Comics Journal 126*** Fantagraphics $3.50
Spotlight on the Hernandez Bros.
❑ ***Conan 217*** 12/22 Marvel 41
❑ ***Conan Saga 23*** 12/29 Marvel $2
❑ ***COPS 8*** 12/8 DC $1

❑ ***Cosmic Heroes 4*** Eternity $1.95
Reprinting classic Buck Rogers strips
❑ ***Crime Classics 4*** Eternity $1.95
Reprinting Shadow comic strips
❑ ***Critters 35*** Fantagraphics $2
❑ ***Cycops Album*** Comics Interview $8.95/$30
Reprinting the Woodcock/Stelfreeze limited series–trade paperback and hardcover editions
❑ ***Daredevil 265*** 12/8 Marvel .75
Inferno crossover delayed from last issue
❑ ***Dark Horse Presents 25*** Dark Horse $1.95
❑ ***Dark Wolf 10*** Eternity 41.95
❑ ***Dark Wolf Annual 1*** Eternity $2.25
❑ ***Deadliest Creature on Earth...Man 2*** Nicotat $2
❑ ***Deadworld 10*** Caliber $1.95
❑ ***Deadworld 11*** Caliber $1.95
Vince Locke series–extremely violent–two different covers offered
❑ ***Death Hawk 4*** Adventure $1.95
❑ ***Death's Head 2*** 12/22 Marvel $1.75
❑ ***Demon Warrior 13*** Eastern $1.75
❑ ***Denizens of Deep City 1*** Kitchen Sink $2
New Doug Potter slice-of-life series
❑ ***Detective 596*** 12/8 DC .75
❑ ***Dick Tracy Weekly 62*** Blackthorne $2
❑ ***Dick Tracy Weekly 63*** Blackthorne $2
❑ ***Dick Tracy Weekly 64*** Blackthorne $2
❑ ***Dick Tracy Weekly 65*** Blackthorne $2
❑ ***Dino-Riders 2*** 12/29 Marvel $1
❑ ***Dinosaurs for Hire 5*** Eternity $1.95
❑ ***Dirty Pair 1*** 12/22 Eclipse $2
All-new comics adventures of the popular team of Japanese heroines–a CSN Hot Pick
❑ ***Doc Savage 6*** 12/15 DC $1.75
❑ ***Donald Duck 270*** 12/1 Gladstone .95
❑ ***Doom Patrol 18*** 12/1 DC $1.25



The team goes through major changes, including the death of a team member
❑ ***DP 7 30*** 12/15 Marvel $1.50
❑ ***Dr. Fate 3*** 12/8 DC $1.25
❑ ***Dr. Strange 3*** 12/1 Marvel $1.25
❑ ***Dr. Zero 6*** 12/22 Marvel $1.50
❑ ***Dragon's Claws 7*** 12/22 Marvel $1.75
❑ ***Dragonforce 8*** Aircel $2.30
❑ ***Dragonlance 5*** 12/22 DC $1.25
Based on the popular TSR gaming series
❑ ***Dreamery 13*** 12/15 Eclipse $2
❑ ***Ducktales 5*** Gladstone .95
❑ ***Edgar Allan Poe 1*** Eternity $1.95
❑ ***Elf Warrior 4*** Quadrant $1.95
❑ ***Elf Warrior 5*** Quadrant $1.95
Peter Hsu's violent elf series



❑ ***Elric: Bane of the Black Sword 5*** 12/29 First $1.95
❑ ***Epic Silver Surfer HC*** 12/1 Marvel $1.95
Hardcover edition of Stan Lee/Moebius limited series with new pages – A CSN Hot Pick
❑ ***Everything's Archie 141*** 12/15 Archie .75
❑ ***Ex-Mutants Winter Special 1*** Eternity $1.95
❑ ***Excalibur 7*** 12/8 Marvel $1.50
❑ ***Fantastic Four 325*** 12/29 Marvel .75
❑ ***Femforce 18*** AC $2.25
❑ ***Fever Pitch 8*** Jabberwocky $8
❑ ***Fifties Terror 3*** Eternity $1.95
Reprints of pre-code horror stories
❑ ***Firestorm 82*** 12/15 DC $1
Ostrander and Grindberg continue this Invasion!-inspired story
❑ ***Fish Police 14*** 12/8 Comico $1.75
❑ ***Flaming Carrot 21*** Dark Horse $2
❑ ***Flash 23*** 12/15 DC $1
Guess who can't run very fast any more?
❑ ***Foes 1*** RAM $1.95
❑ ***Forbidden Kingdom 10*** Eastern $1.75
❑ ***Fright Night 5*** 12/1 NOW $1.75
❑ ***Fright Night 6*** 12/29 NOW $1.75
❑ ***Gammarauders 1*** 12/1 DC $1.25
New series inspired by TSR game system–A CSN Hot Pick
❑ ***Ghostbusters 7*** 12/1 NOW $1.75
❑ ***Ghostbusters 8*** 12/29 NOW $1.75
❑ ***GI Joe 85*** 12/22 Marvel $1
❑ ***GI Joe European Missions 7*** 12/8 Marvel $1.75
❑ ***GI Joe Special Missions 20*** 12/8 Marvel $1
❑ ***Ginger Fox 4*** 12/15 Comico $1.75
Final issue of limited series
❑ ***Gladstone Album 15*** Gladstone $5.95
Featuring the exploits of Donald Duck and Gladstone Gander
❑ ***Good Girls 4*** Fantagraphics $2
❑ ***Gore Shriek 6*** Fantaco $3.50
❑ ***Gorezone 6*** Starlog $3.50
❑ ***Graves Inc. TPB*** 12/1 NOW $5.95
❑ ***Greatest Joker Stories Ever Told HC*** 12/8 DC $19.95
A hefty collection of classic stories pitting Batman against his nemesis – A CSN Hot Pick
❑ ***Green Arrow 15*** 12/22 DC $1.25
❑ ***Grendel 26*** 12/8 Comico $1.75
Wagner, Geldhof, Snyder, and Matt continue the story of Grendel and Pope Innocent XLII in "Devil's Tracks"–a CSN Hot Pick
❑ ***Grey 3*** Viz $2.95
❑ ***Griffin 3*** Slave Labor $1.75

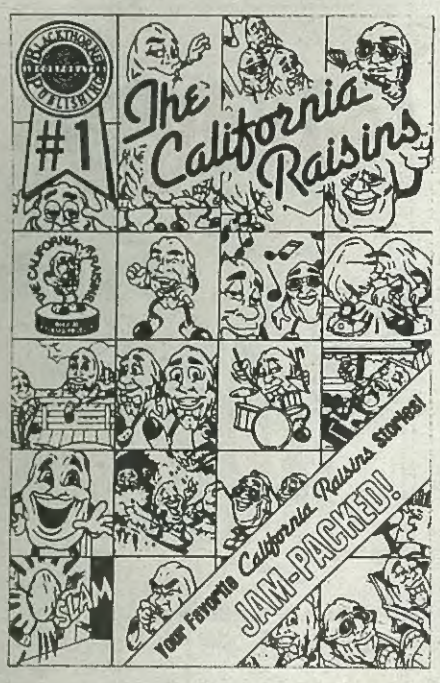
If you enjoy reading *CSN*, don't thank us...

...Thank your retailer!

While you probably pay little or nothing for a new copy of ***Comic Shop News***, it isn't free. The friendly folks at the shop where you pick this up pays for those copies each week. They do this because they want you to know about what's happening in the comics scene today and nobody does that better than ***CSN***. So next time you pick up a copy of the newsletter, be sure to thank the retailer for carrying it; after all, you can't get a subscription to ***CSN***, it is available exclusively at comic speciality outlets, like the one you where you shop!

COMPLETE DECEMBER CHECKLIST

❑ ***Grimjack 57*** 12/15 First $1.95
❑ ***Groo 50*** 12/15 Marvel $1
❑ ***Groo Poster*** Marvel $4.95
❑ ***Gumby's Winter Fun special 1*** 12/22



Comico $2.50
Gumby goes to heck in this all-new adventure featuring Art Adams artwork–a CSN Hot Pick
❑ ***Haunted 1*** A-1 $1.95
Charlton horror stories reprint
❑ ***Havok & Wolverine 2*** 12/15 Marvel $3.50
Walt and Louise Simonson write and Jon J Muth and Kent Williams illustrate this fully painted series–A CSN Hot Pick
❑ ***Haywire 7*** 12/22 DC $1.50
❑ ***Heathcliff 32*** 12/15 Marvel $1
❑ ***Hellblazer 16*** 12/22 DC $1.50
❑ ***Hulk 354*** 12/22 Marvel .75
The Hulk dukes it out in Las Vegas–and is Bruce Banner on his way back? Only Peter David knows for sure
❑ ***Invasion! 3*** 12/8 DC $2.95
Bart Sears illustrates the finale to this year's DC gala crossover series – A CSN Hot Pick
❑ ***Iron Man 240*** 12/1 Marvel .75
❑ ***Jezebel Jade 3*** 12/15 Comico $2
Final issue of Messner-Loebs/Kubert limited series
❑ ***Johnny Hazard 1*** Pioneer $2
❑ ***Jonny Quest 31*** 12/22 Comico $1.75
Final issue of popular series features the sound of wedding bells...
❑ ***Judge Dredd 25*** Quality $1.50
❑ ***Jughead with Archie Digest 91*** 12/15 Archie $1.35
❑ ***Jungle Girl 2*** AC $2.25
❑ ***Justice 30*** 12/22 Marvel $1.50
❑ ***Justice League International 24*** 12/15 DC $1.50
Final Kevin Maguire issue also introduces Justice League Europe, set to star in their own series in 1989–A CSN Hot Pick
❑ ***Justice Machine 24*** 12/8 Comico $1.75
❑ ***Justy 1*** Viz 41.75
❑ ***Justy 2*** Viz $1.75
New sf series of manga translations
❑ ***Kafka's Execution and other Stories 1*** Fantagraphics $2.25
Leopoldo Duranona adapts four classic stories by Franz Kafka
❑ ***Eagle 24*** Aircel $1.95
❑ ***Kiku San 2*** Aircel $1.95
Elves duke it out beneath the city
❑ ***Kings In Disguise 5*** Kitchen Sink $2
❑ ***Last of the Viking Heroes 7*** Genesis West $1.95
❑ ***Laugh Digest 81*** 12/8 Archie $1.35
❑ ***Legion of Super-Heroes 57*** 12/22 DC $1.75
❑ ***Life with Archie 271*** 12/8 Archie .75
❑ ***Light & Darkness War 5*** 12/22 Marvel $1.95
❑ ***Little Archie Digest 35*** 12/22 Archie $1.35
❑ ***Lone Wolf & Cub 20*** 12/8 First $2.50
❑ ***Mad Special 68*** Mad $2.95
❑ ***Mandrake 7*** Pioneer $2
❑ ***Manhunter 10*** 12/15 DC $1
❑ ***Marvel Age 73*** 12/22 Marvel .50

Focus on the Avengers
❑ ***Marvel Comics 15*** 12/1 Marvel $1.25
❑ ***Marvel Comics 16*** 12/15 Marvel $1.25
❑ ***Marvel Comics 17*** 12/29 Marvel $1.25
Featuring a special John Byrne She-Hulk story-prequel to new series; Byrne does cover, which features his first Cyclops drawing in years–A CSN Hot Pick
❑ ***Marvel Fanfare 43*** 12/22 Marvel $1.95
Mantlo, Mignola, and Russell present an off-

beat Sub-Mariner story
❑ ***Marvel Tales 222*** 12/22 Marvel .75
The Spidey/Punisher reprint series wraps up with this issue–n issue begins Spidey-X-Men reprint stories
❑ ***Maxwell Magic Cat Boxed Set*** 12/8 Eclipse $15
Presenting all four volumes of the Alan Moore strip series in a slipcase–a CSN Hot Pick
❑ ***MAZE Agency 1*** 12/15 Comico $1.75
Play-fair mystery series by Mike Barr and Adam Hughes–a CSN Hot Pick
❑ ***Michelangelo 1 reprint*** Mirage $1.50
TMNT micro-series reprint
❑ ***Mickey Mouse 246*** Gladstone .95
❑ ***Miracle Squad 3*** Apple $1.95
❑ ***Modesty Blaise 7*** Pioneer $2
❑ ***Modesty Blaise Annual 1*** Pioneer $3.95
❑ ***Mr. Miracle 2*** 12/22 DC $1

ULTRAGUY GETS MARRIED! continues...

ULTRAGUY & JOE POWER™

by Ward Batty & Charlie Williams

LISTEN--I KNOW THIS IS LOUSY TIMING, BUT THE "TERRIBLE THREE" PLUS GODZIWWA ARE ATTACKING THE CITY!
WHY WOULD THIS CONCERN US, DEAR?
UH-NO REASON, MUFFIN..!
BEAT IT!
C'MON! YOU'RE THE GUY WHO'S ALWAYS RAZZING ME ABOUT OUR RESPONSIBILITY AS SUPERHEROES.' THE CITY NEEDS US!
SUPER-HEROES?
WELL, ER, HONEY--DID I EVER MENTION THAT I'M ALSO ULTRAGUY-- DEFENDER OF EVERYTHING THAT'S NIFTY?
UHOH...
WHAT!?
WHY, YOU--YOU PHONEY!
THROCK
BOOHOOHOOSOB!
...YOU...
GEE, DID I DO THAT?
CONTINUED NEXT WEEK

Have you seen anything in this issue of ***Comic Shop News*** that you can't live without? Make sure you don't miss it; clip this handy coupon and write down the things that you want you comics shop owner to be sure to get for you!

Name_____

Address_____

Phone(H)_____(W)_____

I gotta have 'em! Please reserve for me the following items mentioned in ***Comic Shop News!***

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Be sure to give this to your retailer. **Do not send it to *CSN!*** Your comics shop will make every effort to get the items you want; some items may require a down payment before your shop owner can get them for you; be sure to ask!

COMPLETE DECEMBER CHECKLIST

Mr. Miracle drops in on Dr. Bedlam's dimension for a little fun
❑ ***Mr. Monster 5*** Dark Horse $1.75
❑ ***Mr. X 16*** Vortex $1.75
❑ ***Mystery Man 3*** Slave Labor $1.75
❑ ***Nam Magazine 9*** 12/15 Marvel $2
❑ ***Nausicaa of the Valley of Wind 2*** Viz $2.50
❑ ***New Archies 12*** 12/1 Archie .75
❑ ***New Archies Digest 5*** 12/15 Archie $1.35
❑ ***New Guardians 7*** 12/8 DC $1.25
❑ ***New Humans 11*** Eternity $1.95
❑ ***New Mutants 74*** 12/15 Marvel $1
❑ ***New Titans 53*** 12/1 DC $1.75
Continuing the revelations of the origin of Wonder Girl by Wolfman and Perez–a CSN Hot Pick
❑ ***Next Nexus 4*** 12/22 First $1.95
Who will be the next Nexus–keep reading and see!–A CSN Hot Pick
❑ ***Nexus 55*** 12/8 First $1.95
❑ ***Ninja High School TPB*** Eternity $6.95
❑ ***Outlanders 1*** Dark Horse $2

New manga sf series – A CSN Hot Pick
❑ ***Pineapple Army 1*** Viz $1.75
❑ ***Pineapple Army 2*** Viz $1.75
New manga translation series featuring a former Vietnam vet who is a security advisor–a CSN Hot Pick
❑ ***Plastic Man 4*** 12/22 DC $1
Final installment of offbeat miniseries about the original stretchable hero
❑ ***Popeye TPB 8*** Fantagraphics $14.95
❑ ***Power of the Atom 8*** 12/1 DC $1
❑ ***Power Pack 45*** 12/22 Marvel $1.50
❑ ***Prince Valiant Vol. 4*** Fantagraphics $14.95
Quality oversized reprinting of Hal Foster's classic comic strip
❑ ***Prince Valiant 8*** Pioneer $2
❑ ***Private Eyes 3*** Eternity $1.95
Reprinting the Saint comic strip
❑ ***Psi Force 30*** 12/8 Marvel $1.50
❑ ***Puma Blues 20*** Mirage $1.70
❑ ***Punisher 18*** 12/22 Marvel $1
The Punisher and the Kingpin face off in the finale of this storyline–A CSN Hot Pick
❑ ***Punisher's War Journal 5*** 12/29 Marvel 41.50
❑ ***Quadrant 8*** Quadrant $1.95
❑ ***Question 24*** 12/8 DC $1.75
Election results are in!
❑ ***Racer X 6*** NOW $1.75
❑ ***Rael 1*** 12/8 Eclipse $6.95
Colin Wilson graphic novel
❑ ***Ralph Snart V. 3 #6*** NOW $1.75
❑ ***Ralph Steadman's America*** Fantagraphics $14.95
Trade paperback reprint of Steadman's vicious look at American society
❑ ***Redfox 19*** Valkyrie $2
❑ ***Rip Kirby 5*** Pioneer $2
❑ ***Roachmill 5*** Dark Horse $1.75
❑ ***Robohunter 25*** Quality $1.50
❑ ***Robotech: Macross Saga 34*** 12/22 Comico $1.75
❑ ***Robotech: Sentinels 2*** Eternity $1.95
All-new Robotech series–a CSN Hot Pick
❑ ***Rog 2000 1*** Fantagraphics $2
Reprinting the John Byrne stories from E-Man
❑ ***Rogue Trooper 25*** Quality $1.50
❑ ***Rust V.2 #2*** NOW $1.75
Painted series featuring Vince Locke art - A

CSN Hot Pick
❑ ***Sable 14*** 12/29 First $1.95
Sable takes on a dangerous gang while B.B. Flemm's book stirs up a great deal of controversy
❑ ***Samurai 6*** Aircel $1.95
❑ ***Sandman 1*** 12/1 DC $2
Dark fantasy about the Sandman, who has been imprisoned for 70 years–but now he's free...and angry! A CSN Hot Pick
❑ ***Savage Fantasy 1*** Burcham $2.50
❑ ***Savage Henry 8*** Vortex $1.75
❑ ***Savage Sword of Conan 158*** 12/15 Marvel $2
❑ ***Scavengers 11*** Quality $1.50
❑ ***Scimidar 4*** Eternity $1.95
Graphic and tame covers
❑ ***Scout: War Shaman 9*** 12/22 Eclipse $1.95
Scout and Beau La Duke face off against the Doodyists!
❑ ***Secret Agent 7*** Pioneer $2
❑ ***Secret Origins 37*** 12/22 DC $1.50
Featuring the Legion of Substitute Heroes and Dr. Light
❑ ***Semper Fi' 5*** 12/8 Marvel .75
The action moves to Nicaragua in the 1920's
❑ ***Shadow 20*** 12/1 DC $1.75
The Shadow isn't dead any more–but that doesn't mean he's real happy...
❑ ***Shattered Earth 2*** Eternity $1.95
❑ ***Silver Surfer 22*** 12/22 Marvel $1
❑ ***Silver Surfer Poster*** Marvel $4.95

A COMICS INTERVIEW SPECIAL EDITION
TEENAGE MUTANT NINJA TURTLES
SPECIAL EDITION
HEY, LOOK! WE'RE ON THE COVER!
REALLY? LET ME SEE!
HI MOM!
HEY, WE ARE! LOOK THERE'S THE LOGO!
EASLEY '87 / LAIRD

Moebius poster to accompany the special hardcover release this month
❑ ***Slaine 18*** Quality $1.50
❑ ***Solo Avengers 17*** 12/15 Marvel .75
Featuring Hawkeye and the Black Panther
❑ ***Southern Knights 32*** Comics Interview $1.95
❑ ***Southern Knights Book 7*** Comics Interview $6.95
❑ ***Space: 1999 1*** A-1 $2.50

Full color reprinting of the Gray Morrow-and-John Byrne series based on the syndicated sf show
❑ ***Spectacular Spider-man 148*** 12/1 Marvel $1
❑ ***Spectacular Spider-man 149*** 12/29 Marvel $1
❑ ***Speed Racer 18*** NOW $1.75
❑ ***Speedball 8*** 12/29 Marvel .75
❑ ***Spicy Mysteries TPB*** Eternity $6.95
❑ ***Spicy Tales 5*** Eternity $1.95
Reprinting "naughty" stories from the '30s and '40s
❑ ***Spirit 50*** Kitchen Sink $2
❑ ***St. George 5*** 12/15 Marvel $1.50
❑ ***Star Wars In 3-D 5*** Blackthorne $2.50
❑ ***Starlog 139*** Starlog $3.50
❑ ***Starman 6*** 12/1 DC $1
❑ ***Steve Canyon 23*** Kitchen Sink $13.95
Trade paperback featuring a complete Steve Canyon adventure
❑ ***Stray Toasters 3*** 12/8 Marvel $3.50
Bill Sienkiewicz's compelling story of a psychotic killer–a CSN Hot Pick
❑ ***Strikeforce: Morituri 28*** 12/8 Marvel $1.50
❑ ***Strontium Dog 20*** Quality $1.50
❑ ***Sturm 2*** Eastern $2
❑ ***Sub-Mariner 6*** 12/22 Marvel $1.50
Sub-mariner enters the modern Marvel universe!
❑ ***Suicide Squad 23*** 12/8 DC $1
❑ ***Superman 28*** 12/22 DC .75
❑ ***Superswine Special 1*** Fantagraphics $2
❑ ***Swamp Thing 82*** 12/1 DC $1.25
❑ ***Tales from the Heart 3*** Slave Labor $1.75
❑ ***Tales of GI Joe 16*** 12/8 Marvel $1.50
❑ ***Tandra 9C*** Hanthercraft $1.95
❑ ***Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles 1*** Archie $1
New series by Mike Garcia, inspired by TMNT animated feature–a CSN Hot Pick
❑ ***Teenaged Dope Slaves/Reform School Girls TPB*** 12/1 Eclipse $9.95

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"If you like pulps, movie serials, The Rocketeer, or just a good comic book, this is for you."
Don Thompson
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THE TWILIGHT AVENGER
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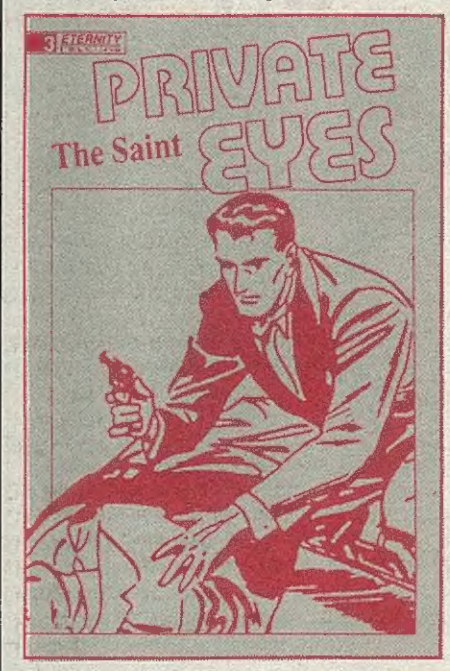
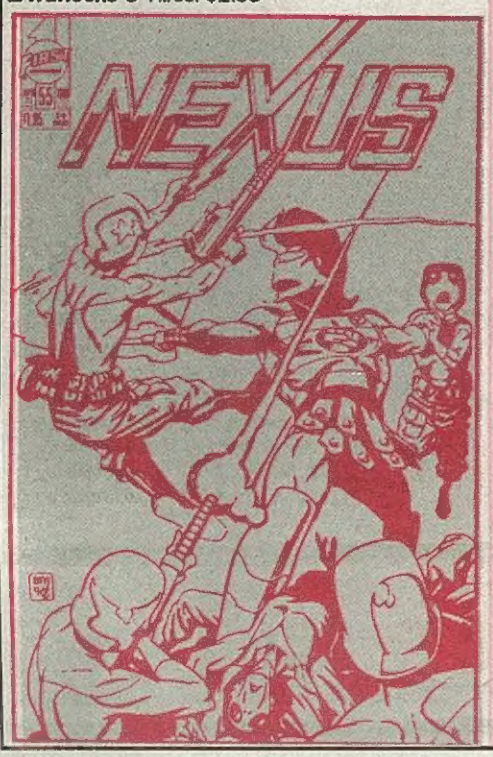
All New Adventures!
Every Month From ETERNITY

COMPLETE DECEMBER CHECKLIST

❑ ***Terminator 6*** 12/1 NOW $1.75
❑ ***Terminator 7*** 12/29 NOW $1.75
Inspired by the popular film–a CSN Hot Pick
❑ ***The Nam 28*** 12/1 Marvel $1.50
❑ ***The Nam 29*** 12/29 Marvel $1.50
❑ ***Thor 402*** 12/29 Marvel .75
❑ ***3-D Zone 16*** 3-D Zone $2.50
❑ ***Three Musketeers 1*** Eternity $1.95
❑ ***Three Stooges In 3-D 4*** 12/29 Eclipse $2.50
Woop woop woop!...
❑ ***Tiger-X Special 1*** Eternity $2.25



Second printing of Ben Dunn collection
❑ ***Time Twisters 14*** Quality $1.50
❑ ***Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles 7*** reprint Mirage $1.50
❑ ***Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles 17*** Mirage $1.50
❑ ***Torrid Affairs 1*** Eternity $2.25
Reprints from 1950's romance comics
❑ ***Total Eclipse 5*** 12/1 Eclipse $3.95
The final issue of the multi-hero crossover extravaganza
❑ ***Transformers 51*** 12/29 Marvel $1
❑ ***Tropo 1*** Eastern $2
❑ ***Twilight Avenger 5*** Eternity $1.95
❑ ***2000 AD 31*** Quality $1.50
❑ ***Ultra Klutz 27*** Onward $2
❑ ***Uncle Scrooge Adventures 12*** Gladstone .95
❑ ***Unknown Soldier 3*** 12/1 DC $1.50
❑ ***Usagi Yojimbo 14*** Fantagraphics $2
❑ ***V for Vendetta 8*** 12/15 DC $2
This issue features the never-before-seen final third of the Moore-Lloyd series–a CSN Hot Pick
❑ ***Vampyres 2*** Eternity $2.25
❑ ***Victims 5*** Eternity $1.95
❑ ***Vietnam Journal 10*** Apple $1.95
❑ ***Walt Disney Comics & Stories 538*** Gladstone .95
❑ ***Wanderers 10*** 12/8 DC $1.25
❑ ***Warlock 5 20*** Aircel $1.95
❑ ***Warlocks 6*** Aircel $1.95



❑ ***Wasteland 16*** 12/8 DC $2
❑ ***Web of Spider-Man 49*** 12/8 Marvel $1
Val Mayerik is guest artist on this Peter David story of drugs and addiction
❑ ***West Coast Avengers 43*** 12/8 Marvel .75
John Byrne's Visionquest continues
❑ ***Whisper 23*** 12/15 First $1.95
❑ ***Wild Knights 9*** Eternity $1.95
❑ ***Wolfpack 9*** 12/8 Marvel .75
❑ ***Wolverine 6*** 12/15 Marvel $1.50
❑ ***Wolverine Poster*** Marvel $4.95
❑ ***Wonder Woman 27*** 12/15 Dc $1

❑ ***X-Factor 39*** 12/29 Marvel $1
❑ ***X-Men 243*** 12/22 Marvel $1
❑ ***X-Thieves Book 3*** Comics Interview $6.95
❑ ***Xanadu V.2 #1*** 12/22 Eclipse $2
The anthropomorphic fantasy series finds a new home–a CSN Hot Pick
❑ ***Young All-Stars 23*** 12/15 DC $1.50
❑ ***Young Master 7*** New $1.75
❑ ***Zot! 23*** 12/8 Eclipse $2

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